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Solution of German Question embedded in international politics

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The debate between the "two states on German soil" is heavily laden with emotion. Their history and points they have in common cannot be ignored in the debate.

It was plain to see both in Erfurt and in Kassel, towns in different worlds, undeniable despite the different forms it took in the two venues and evident from the echo elsewhere.

As far as Germans were concerned the rest of the world might have vanished inton thin air. At Erfurt and Kassel their own affairs were the subject of discussion.

The motif of German politics hopefully but deceptively labelled reunification in the post-war era and now, though still in the foreground, neutrally classified as the German Question is too emotion-laden, too important and too complex to be resolved at one fell swoop by means of a "formal legal act," to use Willy Brandt's phrase.

On the surface the legal act would appear to be so straightforward and many people in this country realise that, to use the arguments of demonstrators in Kassel:

"We might as well recognise them. What difference does it make? Sooner or later it is bound to come. Other countries will follow Algeria's example and one day that will be that."

Maybe it will. Chancellor Brandt is certainly not absolutely convinced that once the details of German-German relations, modestly outlined in twenty points, had been agreed "the question that you refer to as recognition under international law of the GDR could, in the course of time, be solved."

That is going a long way. Can it be claimed, after this statement by the Chancellor, that the GDR is expected to make all the concessions and in advance?

Should Kassel prove to have been the point at which the renewed attempt to reach agreement turned into a cul-de-sac there can be no doubt as to whose intransigence is to blame.

Stoph's claim that there is nothing "intra-German" on which agreement must be reached beforehand and that in relations between two sovereign and equal states everything is "external" is just not true.

Even if the term "intra-German" (which despite Four-Power responsibility must also include Berlin) is not be used, two states that intend to formalise relations must first settle outstanding problems that directly affect the two of them.

Insistence on the pound of flesh of "recognitio " as a sine qua non of any further progress can only be interpreted as a token of inner uncertainty and weakness.

The relaxation of barriers between the GDR and the Federal Republic and the points in common in foreign policy contained in Brandt's twenty points are modest enough even though the Opposition in this country has already lodged objections.

Partial realisation of the twenty points could, in the long run help the GDR to consolidate its position, for that matter, but Stoph and his men seem to feel that the risk is too great.



Chancellor Willy Brandt seeing off Willi Stoph after the Kassel meeting

(Photo: Wolfgang Haut/Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland)

GDR leaders flew to Moscow just before the Kassel meeting in order once again to assure themselves of Kremlin support. The Kremlin will not have denied it them.

This visit once again makes it clear that however much the German question may be an intra-German problem and however heavily laden it may be with its own internal problems it remains an international political topic of the first water.

At the moment Moscow is particularly anxious to consolidate the bloc subjected to its leadership, witness the Prague celebrations and the visit to Moscow by a Rumanian delegation.

No one will deny that the GDR has an important part to play within this bloc and it can be assumed that East Berlin's loyalty to the Kremlin is pleasing to the Soviet leaders. Yet developments in the German Question may represent something of a dilemma for the Kremlin.

Moscow has shown a certain amount of interest in the initiatives classified as Bonn's Eastern policy. They are no doubt seen in connection with the superpowers' attempts to bring about a relaxation of tension, attempts continually called into question by local disputes.

Does not a relaxtion of tension in the German Question also fit into this picture? Does the Kremlin not realise that Bonn has gone a long way in its offers to the GDR, certainly as far as can be expected in view of the resulting domestic policy strain?

The prospects for the GDR that might be expected to ensue from compromise on the part of the other side must surely be to Moscow's liking.

This country, it is repeatedly and with every justification emphasised, can only go so far as is consistent with the requirements of the Western alliance.

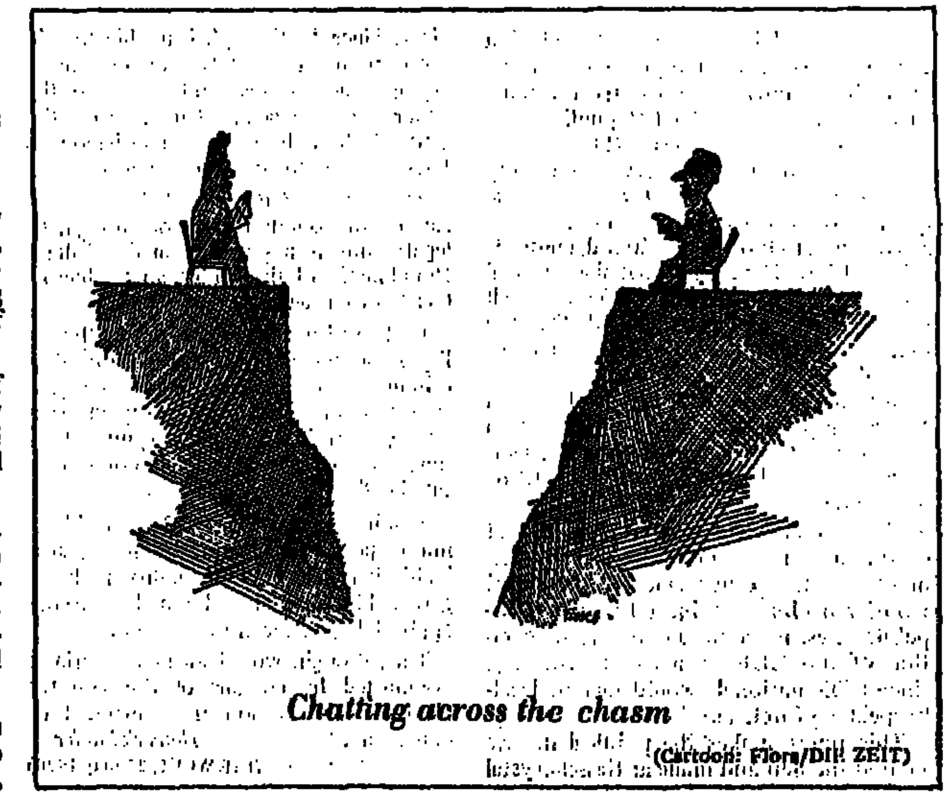
After Erfurt and Kassel it must be concluded, as was done long before the two meetings, that the German Question is embedded in major international politics and cannot be resolved without reference to it.

It cannot, on the other hand, be maintained in the present state in the long run if developments in world affairs favour some developement or other on the German scene.

The nature of this developments is the point in question. The fell swoop of a "formal legal act" would not represent a development consistent with the complex reality.

Nikolas Benckiser

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 May 1970)



Chatting across the chasm

(Cartoon: Flora/Die ZEIT)

IN THIS ISSUE



■ KASSEL

Stoph adopts all or nothing attitude

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

Even without the regrettable incidents that marred the occasion and the provocatively brusque initial statements of Chairman Stoph the prospects of agreement being reached at the second German summit in Kassel were slender.

East Berlin countered the Federal government's attempt to adopt a flexible approach and to specify its views on fundamentals and the details of an agreement with a doctrinaire polemic framed in accusing terms that went even further than the accusations levelled in Erfurt.

Stoph's preconceived 27-page reply to Brandt's twenty-point basis for discussions culminated in a repetition of East Berlin's starting position at Erfurt.

Discussion of second- or third-rate to a substantial normalisation of relations, is rejected. Acceptance of Ulbricht's original draft treaty on the establishment of "equal relations under international law" is demanded instead, and virtually in ultimatum form.

A problem of obvious importance for peaceful coexistence, the Berlin question, is not to be included on the agenda and the geographical link between recognition and Berlin is flatly denied.

In Stoph's view the Federal government has no rights or responsibilities in West Berlin, regardless of agreements with the Allies and the realities of the situation as it has developed.

The mere proposal to negotiate on Berlin in connection with recognition is rejected as intervention in the affairs of West Berlin by the Federal government.

On this point the Federal government cannot yield. Berlin is not a third-rate issue; it is a topic of the greatest urgency. Not only Brandt himself but also Foreign Minister Scheel and the coalition Free Democrats have unambiguously committed themselves.

It is less a matter of the form agreement might take, of one or more treaties, than of the unseverable link between realities in the GDR and in the GDR and in Berlin.

Brandt's twenty-point programme represents the first binding suggestion by a head of government in Bonn as to how relations between the two German states might be put on a normal footing both formally (recognition) and materially.

Exactly three years ago Chancellor Kiesinger proposed talks with West Berlin in the name of the Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats.

He listed sixteen topics with the aim of "relieving the hardship caused by the division of our people and so laying the groundwork for a relaxation of tension within Germany."

What the Federal government omitted to do three years ago was to show willing in any way whatsoever as far as recognition of the GDR was concerned.

In Kassel, on the other hand, Willy Brandt went as far as he possibly could in an attempt to provide a practicable basis for negotiation acceptable to the other side.

The limits lie where this country's treaty obligations to the Western Allies begin. Yet Stoph had nothing but serious accusations to level at the "imperialist Nato pact system."

He gave not the slightest verbal indication of readiness even to register the change that has taken place in Bonn's attitude. He preferred to adopt the arrogant air of a grand inquisitor sitting in judgement over someone who shows no signs of willingness to make amends.

Brandt's offer is directed so unambiguously at a realistic compromise, though, that Stoph-style agitation should have difficulty in appearing even half-way credible in the eyes of an international public opinion interested in normalisation.

The text of Brandt's proposals provides a clear answer to the 64,000-dollar political question: how far the Chancellor is prepared to go on recognition.

Both sides, he notes, should show their willingness to regulate relations on the basis of human rights, equality, peaceful coexistence and non-discrimination as a general rule of international law.

Willi Stoph will have difficulty in rejecting this proposal and continuing to stymie it in order, at Moscow's request, to create the impression in both East and West that East Berlin is prepared to negotiate and come to an agreement.

Hans Schuster
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 May 1970)

A question of jurisdiction

A major GDR demand at Kassel that was not a main topic at Erfurt was that this country renouce its discriminatory claim that Federal Republic law is binding on citizens of the GDR too.

Willi Stoph grasped every opportunity of underscoring this postulate as a sine qua non of all further negotiation.

The main target of this demand is criminal law. Paragraph 3 of the criminal code stipulates that it applies to all German nationals, regardless whether the offence is committed in this country or abroad.

In terms of Basic Law, which is based on the assumption that the German Reich continues to exist, the description German national also applies to people living in the GDR.

Were the law to be amended in respect of this nationality concept, making Germans on the other side of the zonal frontier no longer subject to Federal Republic laws, it would amount to recognition of the GDR as a foreign country, since GDR nationals would then be legally speaking foreigners.

This point makes the political motive behind the demand made at Kassel crystal clear. Since Willi Stoph is unable to gain recognition of the GDR directly he is trying to achieve his aim by means of the otherwise convincing demand that the Federal Republic no longer insist on its laws applying to GDR citizens too.

The repeal of the so-called Handcuffs Act by the Bundestag is not enough. In legal terms it has indeed made Federal Republic legislation fully applicable to GDR citizens again.

De facto but not de jure this applicability is limited by an option permitted in criminal code procedure. For the past two years the public prosecutor has been able to refrain from prosecuting a German national for an offence committed outside this country.

A solution to this intra-German dilemma is possible, but not via nationality legislation. The only possibility is that a geographical limitation be made as to the applicability of the criminal code.

This, though, would mean that crimes committed by citizens of this country abroad could no longer be brought to court here.

Hans Schueler
(DIE WELT, 22 May 1970)

Willy Brandt's twenty-point basis for discussion with Willi Stoph

The Federal government's concept of The Principles and Elements of a Treaty regulating relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic on a basis of equality are as follows:

• The Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic, whose constitutions are orientated to the unity of the nation, conclude, in the interest of peace and the future and coherence of the nation, a treaty regulating relations between the two States in Germany, improving contacts between the populations of the two States, and helping to eliminate existing disadvantages.

• The agreement should be submitted to the respective legislative bodies of both sides for approval, in the form prescribed by their constitutions.

• Both sides should proclaim their desire to regulate their relations on the basis of human rights, equality, peaceful coexistence and nondiscrimination as the generally valid rules of law governing relations between States.

• Both sides undertake not to use or threaten to use force against each other, and to resolve all existing mutual problems by peaceful means. This includes respect for each other's territorial integrity and frontiers.

• Both sides respect the independence and autonomy of each of the two States in matters relating to their inner sovereignty.

• Neither of the two German States can act on behalf of or represent the other.

• The two contracting parties declare that war must never again originate in Germany.

• They undertake to refrain from any actions likely to disturb the peaceful coexistence of nations.

• The two sides reaffirm their intention to support all efforts to achieve disarmament and arms control will enhance European security.

• The treaty must proceed from the consequences of the Second World and the particular situation of Germany and the Germans, who live in two States, yet regard themselves as belonging to *one nation.*

• Their respective responsibilities towards the French Republic, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which are based on the special rights and agreements of those powers with respect to Berlin and Germany as whole, shall remain unaffected.

• The Four-Power agreements on Berlin and Germany will be respected. The same applies to the links that have grown between West Berlin and the Federal Republic of Germany.

• Both sides undertake to support the Four Powers in their efforts to bring about a normalisation of the situation in hand around Berlin.

• The two sides will examine the areas where the legislation of the two States collides, they will endeavour to eliminate such collision so as to avoid disadvantages for the citizens of [...] States in Germany. In doing so [...] start from the principle that the [...] authority of both sides is limited [...] respective territories.

• The treaty should provide for [...] to increase the possibilities for [...] between the two States and [...] achieve freedom of movement.

• A solution should be found [...] problems ensuing from the sep[...] families.

• The district and municipal auth[...] in the border areas should be ena[...] solve existing problems on a good[...]bourly basis.

• Both sides should reaffir[...] readiness to intensify and ext[...] cooperation in various fields, [...] transport and travel, postal relat[...] telecommunications, the exchan[...] formation, science, education, [...] environmental problems and [...] their mutual advantage, and [...] negotiations on the details.

• As regards mutual trade, the [...] agreements, commissions, and [...]ments will continue to apply [...] relations should be further develo[...]

• The two governments will appo[...] potentiaries with the rank of Mi[...] establish offices for the perm[...] presentatives of the plenipote[...] The duties of the plenipotentiar[...] their representatives will be s[...] They will be given working possib[...] the seat of the respective gov[...] and be afforded the necessary [...] and privileges.

• On the basis of the treaty [...] concluded between them, the Fe[...] public of Germany and the Ger[...]mocratic Republic will make th[...]sary arrangements for their me[...] of and participation in internat[...]ganisations.

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■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Polish talks concern human affairs not just political factors

Much water has flown under the bridge since the Federal-Republic-Poland dialogue started. But concrete results on the lines of an agreement about frontiers and the renunciation of force still seem a long way off.

Since the first meeting between State Secretary Georg Duckwitz and the acting Polish Foreign Minister Winiewicz in March in Warsaw, which was followed by two more meetings in the Polish capital and which will shortly be continued in Bonn, a discussion on this topic has got under way in this country.

The main question to be reviewed is how can this country normalise its relations with the People's Republic of Poland.

In the past such political considerations as this remained on a theoretical plane. Today there is an opportunity to test their chances of succeeding in practice.

Visitors to Warsaw from this country, even those with political status, were often given second-class treatment in the Polish capital. Added to this the scope of the head of our trade mission in Warsaw was limited to the barest essential contact with the Polish Foreign Trade Ministry.

When the day came that the head of the Federal Republic trade mission was received for the first time by the acting Foreign Minister in his office this was considered to be a sign of great progress.

Contentedly the Foreign Minister told his visitor that further talks were planned for the autumn, that is to say after six months had elapsed, and at the same time he was warned to exercise the utmost discretion.

The situation has changed radically today. Since last year's May Day speech of Party Chairman Gomulka things have begun to move in the Federal Republic-Polish relationship. A few days ago Gomulka spoke again on the state of discussions, mentioning Chancellor Brandt with a degree of approval while reproaching the Opposition for continuing to steer a "revanchist course" and pursuing policies which were "antipathetic to peace".

Such Polish prejudice may be reduced by Christian Democrat member Hans Dichgans who is at present on a tour through western sectors of Poland with his party colleague Petersen.

"The Poles will certainly spare no effort to advise their guests from Bonn rather forcibly of the changes that have taken place in the past 25 years. Dichgans, who was once a young assistant judge in Pomerania got to know this part of the country very well and since then has remained interested in all questions concerning Eastern Bloc policy, will certainly not suppress the impressions he gains on his return.

On the other side Social Democrat member Hupka, who is at the same time Vice-President of the Expellees Association stated recently that the Oder-Neisse line had been drawn up by force and that he could not give his approval to such a "reality with the stamp of injustice, as a democrat, a German and anturally an expellee."

In his party, the SPD, which has always spoken out for self-determination and against force, there would be "many who agree with me and who, like me, without being directly affected by the fate of the expellees, think along the same lines."

There is no doubt that among SPD members in Bonn there are many who think along the same lines as Hupka, and that he also has allies in Free Democrat Bundestag members.

On the other hand in the ranks of the Christian Democrats and Christian Socialists there are certainly members who are keen to settle the Federal Republic-Poland relationship even if this can only be done in connection with actual recognition of present boundaries.

There is a likelihood that if an agreement on the Polish question had to be ratified the noes in the government parties would counterbalance the ayes of the Opposition parties.

For a long time the percentage of people in this country that wants to rule out any such agreement on boundaries has remained constant. For a long time the figure was around 35 per cent, but the latest surveys show that the picture may be changing. If the talks between Bonn and Warsaw should lead to an agreement it is likely that a large majority of people in the Federal Republic would approve the decision.

But this is still a long, hard way off. Poland is demanding an "unambiguous" recognition of its frontiers. Only then will Warsaw be prepared to normalise its relationship to Bonn. If it should come to a recognition of the frontiers then the GDR would no longer be able to sway Poland from its intention.

Foolhardy attacks on State Secretary Duckwitz in the Socialist Unity Party (SED) official organ *Neues Deutschland*, hastily organised visits by Foreign Minister Winzer Warsaw, and the warning finger raised by SED high-up's in a rather schoolma'm fashion can in themselves do nothing to delay the process of rapprochement, even though no responsible person in Poland is of a mind to antagonise the GDR and thwart its interests.

In the talks between Duckwitz and Winiewicz the Polish expectations of economic aid have hardly had a part to play. The subject of a loan of 500 million Marks at a favourable rate of interest did not crop up at all in these talks.

Certainly there was a general remark from the acting Foreign Minister that an improvement to Federal Republic-Polish trade would have beneficial political results. Federal Republic Economic Affairs Minister Karl Schiller expressed this at the Social Democrat Party conference in Saarbrücken with the formula: *Wandel durch Handel* (Changes resulting from trading).

The formula concerning frontiers is still the most weighty question. Bonn and Warsaw have ascertained that the Poles are not content with the clause that the Oder-Neisse Line "forms" Poland's western frontier.

It is quite certain that at a later peace conference in the dim and distant future the Federal Republic would find no one prepared to accept corrections to the boundary formed by the Oder and Neisse Rivers. So we are reduced to entering into semantic niceties about how words such as *feststellen (to establish,* with a sense of permanence) can be replaced by more agreeable words.

On the other hand we shall have to abide by the clauses stating that agreements concluded in the past will not be affected by future agreements.

A similar situation obtained in the East Berlin-Moscow friendship agreement of 1964, where there were constant reminders of the Potsdam Agreement.

Official French sources have pointed out that for Warsaw there are various juristic problems in the present Federal Republic-Poland talks. These were not created by the Federal Republic, but come what may they must be respected, until a new ruling has been formulated at later peace conferences. Foreign Minister Jedrychowski learnt this on a visit to Paris.

The opinions of all three western powers are in agreement on the point that as conquering powers in 1945 they are responsible for the whole of Germany.

Despite this the Federal Republic's western neighbours are concerned that there should be a clearing up of the Polish question. If Bonn would concern itself with the possibilities of reuniting families split up by the Iron Curtain rather than insisting on the rights of German minorities in Poland then it seems quite possible that we could come to an agreement with Poland.

German speaking people in Poland who were German nationals before 1945 have long since become Polish citizens. Most of them have children who speak better Polish than German.

What we must avoid is making these affairs a matter of prestige. If we can do so then it is conceivable that we will be able to achieve something concrete in reuniting families, a worthwhile compromise.

Dettmar Cramer
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 May 1970)

Willy battling with the raging river waters
(Cartoon: Flora/DIE ZEIT)

Kassel conference and the talks in Moscow

Before the Erfurt summit meeting between Willy Brandt and Willi Stoph it was significant that Andrei Gromyko and Egon Bahr broke off their negotiations for several days.

Now just before the return summit in Kassel it is even more significant that the exact opposite has occurred.

The day before the Kassel meeting which took place on 21 May Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko and Federal Republic State Secretary Bahr met and talked and then set their next meeting for the day after the Kassel talks.

Both sides have given the impression that they are not keen to waste any time. This is borne out by the fact that State Secretary Egon Bahr has conferred three times in the past four days with the departmental leader of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Falin.

Never before has the contact between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union been so remarkable as at the moment when Willy Brandt and Willi Stoph held their second summit conference 62 days after the first.

Outwardly the difference is unmistakable. The meeting in Erfurt in March happened amid a reverent silence whereas the Kassel meeting this month has been surrounded by palaver.

Bonn has not allowed itself to be thrown off balance by anything including the sharpest and most unfair polemics.

The Bonn government was not subjected to such an attempt to unsettle it in Moscow and Warsaw.

All the signs go to show that Andrei Gromyko and Egon Bahr have virtually come to the end of their discussions and exchange of views.

It seems at the moment the main business to be completed is to draw up a working report in which the results of the analysis they have hammered out and formulated jointly are contained.

This report would provide the foundations and the outline for the actual negotiations between Bonn and Moscow. It seems that in our discussions with Moscow we have as good as reached the point which appears to be impossible to reach in Inter-German negotiations as long as East Berlin does its best to make an agreement impossible.

While Walter Ulbricht seems to have embarked upon a all-or-nothing policy the Soviet Union and Poland have made it clear that they no longer rule out concessions entirely.

No one realises yet what form these concessions will take and in the face of East Berlin's extreme attitude and the general situation it seems likely that whatever concessions are made they will be straitjacketed.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union and Poland seem to be quite content that the negotiations with Bonn's two emissaries Bahr and Duckwitz have proved the Bonn government is prepared to enter into negotiations on realistic lines.

Such insight which calls for a similar generous response from the other side, if it is well intentioned, should not have been darkened by Ulbricht's lightning intervention shortly before Whitsun in Moscow. On the contrary the ceaseless talks being carried out by Bahr at the time should act as a demonstration that we will not let ourselves be thrown off course.

What Ulbricht actually does is not such an important consideration as the weight he carries and his political power in the face of the Kremlin.

We will soon see whether Moscow has found sufficient arguments and sufficient means to direct East Berlin the course it has been sailing together with Warsaw.

Irrespective of what Ulbricht says and thinks this course must involve finding a formula which is based on the actual status quo, as was stated in the first Federal Republic-Soviet communiqué.

There seems to be a great deal of interest for this not only in Bonn but also in the Soviet Union and in Poland as well.

Basing our assumptions on this the questions must be asked: will the Stoph-Brandt meeting in Kassel put to the test the ideas that are being spread in Moscow amid an almost unprecedented veil of silence?

Will the Kassel meeting bring East Berlin into line with the other East Bloc countries?

Hans J. Kranz
(Lübecker Nachrichten, 21 May 1970)

CENTREPIECE

[illegible] of the South Pacific in Berlin museum

Visitors can climb on the ocean-going sailing boats from Tonga in the South Pacific or sit on the narrow log canoe that is the main means of transport in Polynesia.

Afterwards they can go into the original male clubhouse from the Palau Islands after reading with a wry grin that the local women were not allowed to enter these clubhouses. They still had considerable social and political importance at the beginning of the century. "But strange girls were welcome and took care of the men," the notice adds.

Berlin's Ethnological Museum, one of the most important collections of its type in the world, has now found an appropriate home in the largest museum building to be built in this country since the War.

The Ethnological Museum was founded in 1873 from the Great Elector's cabinet of rarities and art works belonging to the kings of Prussia.

Before the Second World War it included more than 400,000 exhibits. 330,000 of these survived the War, bombs, defeat and the early post-war years.

Because of the shortage of space most of the exhibits were stored away for more than a quarter of a century in hundreds of chests. But at last some 5,000 exhibits can be put on display once again.

Architects Ebert and Bornemann have produced one of the most modern museum buildings in the world. During the six years of construction in the Berlin suburb of Dahlem an ultra-modern complex grew up from steel and concrete.

The facade is of Etruscan limestone with pillars of Wachenheim dolomite. Granite is predominant in the entrance hall and African oak in the exhibition rooms.

Building costs amounted to 42.3 million Marks, arranged by the Prussian Cultural Foundation.

Steps lead up to the entrance hall but it is not intended to be a temple. Instead the style is new for this country and tries to appeal to the public.

It would like to be a place of meeting and information. For this reason there is a lecture room, a projection room, a junior museum, rooms where lectures can be given to young people and a shop where postcards, catalogues, records, slides and posters can be bought. A cafeteria is to be set up in the basement.

The museum employs the loose-leaf guide system common in the United States. Every visitor can take a free sheet in each department and built up a catalogue. There are plans to instal special facilities so that visitors will be able to listen to short lectures over earphones. An information room is constantly staffed with experts in attendance to answer questions in informal discussions with groups or individuals.

The fully air-conditioned building is not yet completely finished inside. Three departments are now open – Old America, South Pacific and Southern Asia. Three further departments devoted to Islamic, Far Eastern and Indian art are to be opened during this coming winter and next spring.

In the museum's inner courtyard there is a copy of one of the most famous landsmarks of India, Sanchi Gate.

But the first exhibits visitors see on their tour round the museum are the monumental stone sculptures of the Old American department. This is a really impressive start. This collection of tomb-stones from Guatemala dating from 600 A.D. is unique. Even in Guatemala City only copies can be seen.

In the department devoted to Southern Asia the visitor's attention is held by fine filigree silhouette sculptures from India and Indonesia and puppets from Burma. In the middle there is a platform with multicoloured theatre and demon masks from Ceylon.

The highpoint of a visit to the museum is the south sea pavilion which contains many exhibits brought back by Captain Cook from his second circumnavigation of the world.

Together with the sailing boats and houses the coat of feathers that once belonged to the king of Hawaii is of special value. Almost all the exhibits cry out for protracted attention – ceremonial paddles, richly decorated headbands, a unique bust collection and figures with strange, fascinating faces.

Subtle artificial lighting and soft native music common to these latitudes conjure up something of the atmosphere of this remote island world without indulging in the hula-hula romanticism that most people seem to associate with the "South Seas"

Liselotte Müller

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 May 1970)



Boats used by Pacific Islanders exhibited at Berlin's Ethnological Museum (Photo: Museum für Völkerkunde)

Konrad Adenauer collection to be auctioned

Konrad Adenauer's private collection of valuable paintings, which the first Federal Chancellor described as a "fountain of consolation and hope" come up for auction at Christies (London) on 26 June.

Among the 36 old masters in this collection are the altarpiece by Lucas Cranach the Elder and the "Holy Family" by Paolo Veronese.

There are two Passions from the Dutch school by Joost von Kalkar and a Madonna and child by Joos van Cleve.

Christies have estimated the total value of the late Chancellor's collection at more than seven million Marks.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 8 May 1970)

African authors at Tübingen

The aim of the Africa Days being held at Tübingen from 11 to 13 June is a strengthening of cultural relations between the Federal Republic and African authors from Ghana, Liberia, Cameroun and Senegal are expected to attend the festival. In Tübingen they will have the opportunity of discussing their work and problems with this country's novelists, experts on Africa and translators.

The Horst Erdmann publishing house is organising the event and is taking this opportunity to publish new literary works from Africa including *Flight to Acra* by Cameron Duodu, the best-known writer from Ghana. This work deals with the problem of Africa's unsettled youth.

Other works include an anthology of the best contemporary West African short stories edited by Janheinz Jahn, the first joint work produced in cooperation between this country and Liberier, *Liberian Writing*, a literary description of Liberia, and *The Dark Wanderer*, a volume of poems by the African poet Albat W. Kayper-Mensah.

(DIE WELT, 14 May 1970)

Old TV films shown abroad with success

Television programmes that have been screened here and are threatened with banishment to the archives are becoming welcome advertisements for the Federal Republic's image in countries in Asia, Africa and South America, the so-called Third World.

In 1969 *Trans-Tel* in Cologne sent a total of 8,390 television films to 72 countries in Asia, Africa and South America. This organisation is responsible for dubbing films, and is associated with all radio and television stations in this country as well as the central government.

In matters of personnel and organisation it is closely linked with Deutsche Welle. But, compared with Deutsche Welle, *Trans-Tel* is not allowed to and has no facilities to produce its own programmes. Instead it has to work with already existing films.

Admittedly the broadcasts it buys do not very often appear in their original form. In an attempt to conform to the needs of the purchaser eighty per cent of the material is processed into series that are not to exceed thirteen or 26 minutes.

The very popular magazine programmes are very rarely sent to foreign countries in their original form but are re-edited in Cologne from the wealth of material available.

All broadcasts are available in a synchronised English, French, Spanish, Portuguese or Arabic version as well as in the original German. The latter film is supplied with a translation in the language of the area where it is to be broadcast.

Apart from the entertaining and informative magazine programmes, football matches, variety shows and children's broadcasts are in particular demand.

But since *Trans-Tel* was founded in 1966 one film has been in more demand than the others – this is a twelve-minute long portrait of Willy Brandt and has been shown in 58 countries.

On the whole there is only a limited selection of political films. Topical political news from this country with an international flavour is supplied by the private *e-t-s* agency of Wiesbaden. *Trans-Tel* owns fifty per cent of the shares of this organisation.

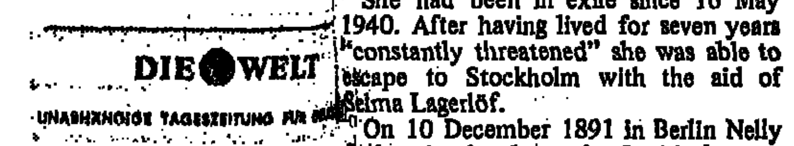
Films on the problems of de[...] countries find no buyers as they [...] be positive enough for these [...] national feelings.

Programme compilers at *Tra*[...] concerned by the shortage of [...] series. The series shown on televisio[...] Federal Republic are mainly all [...] rican origin.

Editing and synchronising this [...] programme is much dearer and st[...] narrow limits of the modest thre[...] Mark budget.

The Foreign Office has now se[...] help of Internationes and has pr[...] allow this organisation to syn[...] four series a year, including *O*[...] *Salto Mortale*.

The success of *Trans-Tel* id w[...] tioning as it faces strong compe[...] developing countries. But the[...]



many American films that the lo[...] lation soon tires of them.

This is the sort of situation th[...] *Tel* exploits. There are already [...] countries where a film from Co[...] shown every day.

This soon leads to problems of w[...] show next!

Variety shows and features o[...] Federal Republic have proved [...] popular and have established the[...] on the international level. The [...] buyers are Uganda, Jordan and Th[...]

Interest is completely independe[...] country's political system. A ne[...] tract was recently concluded with [...] for instance. But Iraq, Syria and [...] no longer figure among the buyers [...] the German Democratic Republi[...] managed to provide successful [...] petition.

Trans-Tel pays the television co[...] 83 Marks a minute and sells its p[...] at the lowest possible market price [...] at a profit of ten per cent.

Werner Schulze-Rei[...]

(DIE WELT, 14 Ma[...])

DRAMA

Two Pinter Plays premiered in Frankfurt



Harold Pinter's plays *The Collection* and *The Lover* were premiered recently at Frankfurt's Kammerspiel.

Though both plays are good fun thanks to their precise construction and misleading comic aspects they are not in fact comedies.

They are rather the dramatic version, specially suited to the theatre, of what psychologists call the amphiboly of everything that should be explained. The ambiguousness of everything and everything that happens makes explanations more difficult.

As Pinter himself said, it is wrong to assume that everything that happened and happens should be clearly defined.

Jochen Neuhaus directed *The Collection* in a revised version of Willy H. Thiem's translation.

He missed his chance of accentuating the changing relationships of characters from one scene to another. Instead he set his course so that shortly before the end a pseudo-happy ending would come about. about.

When in fact the play does come to an end the solution is further away than ever. Everything is put in question yet again. The audience leaves the theatre in the middle of a Pinteresque vicious circle. Who told the truth? Who lied? When? Why? What happened? Why should the unlikely seem likelier than the likely which seems unlikely? ... Such are the questions left unanswered.

The Collection has greatly simplified the whodunit-in-reverse play which does not at first confuse and then tie up the loose ends, but vice versa.

Pinter's (presumed) intention has thus been fulfilled.

The only jarring aspect of the performance is the misguided acting of the roles of the two homosexuals Harry and Bill.

Instead of the usual tensions between two men who have been living together for years, made clear by Harold Pinter's text in the taunts and tormenting, rather like a married couple whose marriage is going on the rocks, we see something else.

Horst Richter (Harry) and above all Jörg Benedict (Bill) play the two men with stupid attitudes and gestures, the kind of traits that ignorant petty-bourgeois consider typically "queer".

As a "normal" married couple Susanne Barth and Karl-Heinz Fiege have an easier time of it, not that this should detract from their performance.

The Lover shows the problem of how to distinguish between virtually indistinguishable truth and falsehood. How to separate out reality and fantasy. Again the subject is treated with a concrete background of sex problems.

Richard, a typical man of the typical British middle-classes leaves his typical English house on a typical morning and as he leaves asks his typical English wife Sarah, "Will your lover be coming round today?"

In fact the husband is himself the lover! Two or three times a week he plays games of whore and he-man, shy flower and gentleman, married woman and rapist with his wife.

Suddenly, however, the roles he plays in these sex games become confused. He becomes jealous of himself, plays the role of lover and tortures himself with thoughts of the woman's husband, and when he returns to the role of husband he longs to smash the skull of his wife's lover.

A temporary solution is provided by the invention of a new game. But this is just a new version of the old game. Suddenly it seems he is aware of fantasy and how this can become mixed up with reality.

The stage sets by Reinhold K. Olszewski are not particularly convincing.

Ursula Dirichs and Günther Amberger are a quickwitted married couple who seek – and for a short time find – a way out of the tedium of everyday married life.

Pinter's text is far more subtle than the interpretation given it in Frankfurt however. He portrays the complexity of human relationships in that he leaves open who feels what about whom and when and how far and why.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 13 May 1970)



A scene from Harold Pinter's 'The Lover' (Photo: Günter Englert)

Joyce poetry cycle set to music

Klaus Huber's composition *James Joyce Chamber Music* has had to wait three years for its premiere although it was completed on time.

Huber met the deadline set by the signees of his contract, German Swiss Radio, who wanted to give the score complete to the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) London.

This friendly gesture was intended as congratulations for the Jubilee of the Third Programme. But the Jubilee did not take place and the score was ignored.

And so Kiel's Director-General of Music, Hans Zender, was able to enrich an already attractive concert programme with a novelty, having already promised to premiere a German work.

James Joyce Chamber Music for harp, horn and chamber orchestra is a very light piece. It is aimed at lovers of the semishade and irridescent colours.

The piece is a tribute to the early Joyce cycle of poems, *Chamber Music*, published in 1907. These are lyric and Romantic in mood, verses in which rustic metaphors are the setting for a love story.

Huber avoided simply setting this text to music. The artistry of Joyce's language seemed to him too perfect for that This homage to the Irish writer is executed with indirect associations and in a meditative manner.

Solo horns correspond to syllables in the lyric. Lines of the poetry are quoted in the score as pointers, windows on the inner character of the poetry.

In its essence however the relationship of the music to the poetry is of a subjective and impressionist nature. It is a result of thoughtful and sensitive unanimity a process of "tuning-in".

The score is extraordinarily complicated in structure. There are myriad subtle microstructures with complicated changes in rhythm all adding up to give the music a soaring beauty.

Clusters of notes become in themselves fluid surfaces. The harp and horn are generally speaking embedded in the overall sound.

Huber's work is a successful synthesis of the most modern methods of composition and in addition to this a happy attempt at making a literary experience come to life and be fruitful as a musical composition.

The success of this work was assured with a wonderful performance by the Kiel Orchestra, conducted by Hans Zender.

Praise is also due to soloists Ursula Holliger (harp) and Gustav Neudecker (horn).

(DIE WELT, 11 May 1970)

Nobel prize-winner Nelly Sachs dies in Sweden

Nelly Sachs, the greatest poetest from this country since Else Lasker-Schüler, is dead. Like Else Lasker-Schüler and Paul Celan, who died only a few days ago, Nelly Sachs died in exile.

She had been in exile since 16 May 1940. After having lived for seven years "constantly threatened" she was able to escape to Stockholm with the aid of Selma Lagerlöf.

On 10 December 1891 in Berlin Nelly Sachs, the daughter of a Jewish factory-owner, was born.

She grew up in an intellectual atmosphere, which was very liberal and in many ways helped her natural artistic talents along.

At first she had wanted to become a dancer. She wrote her first poems when she was seventeen. They were in the tradition of German Romanticism.

In 1921 a volume of poetry entitled *Legenden und Erzählungen* (Legends and Narratives) was published in Berlin. Today this is virtually forgotten and quite rightly so.

Other individual poems, many of them published in the *Vossische Zeitung*, gave scarcely an inkling of the later works Nelly Sachs was to write. These works came after she had experienced deep personal suffering and the suffering of the Jews as a whole.

Three years after she emigrated Nelly Sachs took up writing again. She was a different person! In 1943 she wrote *Eli – Ein Mysterienspiel vom Leiden Israels*, which was published in 1951 in Malmö by Walter A. Berendsohn.

This was premiered eleven years later in Dortmund.



(Photo: Riwkin/IP)

Her first postwar book was a thin volume of poems, illustrated by Rudi Stern. It was entitled *In den Wohnungen des Todes* (In Death's Dwellings). It was published in 1947 by Aufbau Verlag, Berlin.

This was followed by *Sternverdunkelung (Darkened Stars, Amsterdam 1949), Und niemand weiß weiter (No one can say more, 1957) Flucht und Verwandlung (Flight and Change 1959), Glühende Rätsel (Glowing Puzzles, 1964), Späte Gedichte (Later Poems, 1965)*, and the cycle, *Die Suchende (The Seeker, 1966)*.

Collections of her poems have been published in 1961 and 1962 by Suhrkamp Verlag. There have also been two special collections, the anthologies *Fahrt in Staublose* (Where the Air is clean) and *Zeichen im Sand* (The Sign in the Sand).

Nelly Sachs has also made her mark as a translator of Swedish poetry.

The Federal Republic has tried to heap honours on this poetess of suffering, death in the gaschambers and reconciliation, but in the face of her work it seems nothing can atone.

In 1960 Nelly Sachs received the Droste Prize, in 1961 she became the first person to win the prize named after her and presented by the city of Dortmund, in 1965 she won the Federal Republic book-trade's peace prize. In 1967 Berlin made her an honorary citizen.

The Swedish Academy awarded her the Nobel Prize in 1966.

There are an incredible number of works on her verse, some written for genuine love of what she wrote, others the product of troubled consciences. None of these really does her justice and work is still going on to appraise her later works with their wealth of new subject matter.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 May 1970)

■ EDUCATION

Munich's Film and Picture Institute aims to lighten the teacher's burden

The foundation stone of the new building for the Film and Picture Institute has now been laid in Munich. Fritz Kempe reports in this article on the institute and the possibility of including audio-visual methods in schools.

Twenty years ago 16mm educational films, colour slides and grammophone records were in use at schools. There was violent discussion about whether educational films should remain silent or whether sound films should be used.

Silent films gave teachers the opportunity of making pupils do the talking. Teachers could bear in mind the age of the children when asking questions and giving explanations.

But even the champions of educational films with sound criticised the loquaciousness of commercial sound films. They said that in educational films there should be sound only where two people were talking or where objects were producing their peculiar noises.

Commentary was kept in narrow confines and music as a means of expressing atmosphere was frowned upon.

The educational sound film developed into the sociological film. School broadcasts and tape recorders were only just being introduced at that time. But it was already realised what educational opportunities were offered by these two acoustic methods.

In 1950 the Institute for Film and [...] was set up in Munich by this country's Federal states to produce and promote audio-visual methods that could be used in the educational sphere.

This spread into today's network of fourteen Federal state picture bureaux and 533 district and town picture bureaux.

In the course of twenty years the FWU has produced some thousand films. More than half a million 16mm copies have been distributed to the picture bureaux.

Of course some of these films are mediocre or poor but there are also many excellent films included. This country's educational films enjoy an excellent reputation abroad. And the distribution organisation's size has been praised.

The initiated will know that this is not the complete picture. It is a long time since the picture bureaux have been distribution organisations pure and simple; they have developed into Educational Centres of Audio-visual Methods.

Educationalists at the picture bureaux must show what uses these methods can be put to in classwork and how they can be made particularly effective.

They must also integrate the methods into school work. They can do this only in cooperation with those responsible for teacher training and further training.

In the picture bureaux of the Federal states educationalists can call upon the help of technicians who test the equipment and submit their results and pro[...]

It can be said with a fair degree of certainty that the equipment in the Federal state picture bureaux and, more especially, in the district and town picture bureaux is not equal to the new demands being made on it.

The situation is particularly critical for the district and town picture bureaux as they are normally run by teachers on a part-time basis, their catchment area is frequently too small and there is consequently not enough money to buy films, slides and tape-recorders.

Full-time picture bureau directors should be employed in the towns and districts. And local councils must help out on the financial side.

16mm films, slides, records, tapes and school broadcasts have long been an accepted part of education. But it is out of date to think that every school must be provided with one item of equipment for each of these methods.

This is all the more true now that new methods have appeared, each with their own special equipment and with their educational benefits firmly and scientifically established.

This includes the super-8mm film. The 8mm is not meant to compete with the 16mm film. It is silent and lasts only thirty seconds to six minutes. It is meant to be used when certain scientific or biological process are to be shown. Cartoon film methods are often employed.

The use of these films can be extended to other subjects, right down to elementary school level. This can already be [...] in the production plans of the FWU and private learning aid manufactures.

Cassette projectors will probably be considered, to be produced by manufacturers in this country too. A study just published by Professor W. Cappel, Director of the Film and Picture Institute, envisages every school with a thousand pupils having ten projectors for 8mm films.

Language laboratories are now so firmly established as an aid in linguistic studies that teaching a modern language without a language laboratory will be unusual.

Language laboratories are already being used together with the projection of slides and foreign language specialist films.

Media can be combined in programmed learning with audio-visual aids when over-



head projectors, sound films and cassette tape recorders are included.

The multi-media system is not only a concept for modern artists and designers of trade fair stands. Schools too are beginning to demand it. All media are being brought together to perform a function. The result is a teaching system where media are used in the fields for which they are best suited.

Modern educational technology deals with the methodical aspects of educational procedure, including the selection of new aids. Today these are primarily audio-visual — this can not be disputed. School television also belongs to this category.

The first experimental programmes were transmitted by Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR) in 1960. The Bavarian Broadcasting Service has been transmitting its school programmes since 1964,

Continued on page 9

Children's TV ru[...] by children

At the end of April thirteen-ye[...] schoolboy Ulrich Büthge sat in [...] of the cameras of the Hesse Broadc[...] Service and read the "Children's N[...]

The general public had already dis[...] this novelty as an everyday [...] vision gimmick and gave Ulrich th[...] leading nickname of "Mini-Köpcke" [...] this country's best known newsread[...]

But there was more to it than t[...] was a serious attempt to open up [...] field to children between the ages [...] and twelve — the possibility of [...] mitting information and forming [...] people's opinions.

A children's discussion prog[...] now to be started. The first mo[...] "What should a pupil do if his [...] report is bad and he is afraid to t[...] parents?"

The ultimate aim of the Hesse Broa[...]ing Service's daring though serio[...] gramme compilers is a magazin[...] gramme for our dear young ones [...] not so dear nor so young as pare[...] maiden aunts often believe.

The first attempt showed how [...] it was. The response was predomi[...] unfavourable.

A lot of trouble had been taken [...] Half a dozen news items conc[...] events that occurred in April and [...] from Apollo 13 and Lenin's centen[...] a discussion on a five-day week als[...] were made more digestible by sh[...] short films and explanatory stat[...] and included in the children's ente[...]ment programme *Ich wünsch' mir* [...]

Professor Iring Fischer of Fr[...] spoke of Lenin. His talk was good [...] whole but the consequences of the [...] [...]tober Revolution did *involve* a [...] bloodshed. Professor Fischer had [...] tised his text beforehand on his [...] children.

An attempt was made to explain [...] thing simply and without becomin[...]ing. Pupils were assumed to know [...] nothing about the subjects discuss[...] it is obviously hard to explain anyt[...] children without sounding like a [...] teacher or a governess.

Similar objections are to expect [...] the discussion programme to be pu[...] alternately by the Hesse and So[...] Broadcasting Services.

Josef Göhlen, the man respons[...] the programme, knew an eighte[...] old sixth-former in Frankfurt's [...] Reuter School. The sixth-forme[...] minated four eleven and twelve-yea[...] two boys and two girls, whom he [...]sidered suitable. These pupils then [...] up the children's editorial staff.

The editorial staff meets every [...] weeks. The planned discussion broa[...] is a six minute extract from a three [...] long verbal battle.

Worldly wise suggestions alternate [...] original proposals. "A friend should [...] company the pupil to his parents [...] explain the poor report," one boy [...] "Joint parent and pupil mee[...] should be set up," said another.

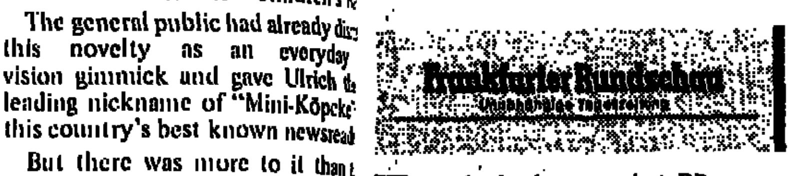
Finally the whole affair degene[...] into typically childish intolerance: c[...]ren should be allowed to discuss [...] problems on television, it was said, [...] the programmes should be sandwi[...] between two popular crime serie[...] broadcast on both channels at the s[...] time so that adults would have to [...] it.

Those responsible for the original [...] are well aware that this series of d[...]sions may not be completely [...] especially if in the course of time y[...] TV stars develop.

But to guard against this the discus[...] group will be changed at regular inte[...] in a rota system. (DIE WELT, 12 May 19[...])

■ MEDICINE

Micro-biological research into why milk turns sour



Everybody knows what BB means, I suppose, but what is BBB?" asked one of the experts jokingly. "Bad Beer Bacteria!" he added, answering his own question.

That could be the pub-goer's name for a type of microbe that has already bothered many brewers. It is not only milk that is affected by bacteria producing unwanted acids and a bad taste.

Other microscopic creatures are on the other hand useful. Bacteria help cheese to mature for instance. Yeast cells used in beer or baking bread and penicillin fungi are carefully tended.

These questions were considered at the second symposium for technical microbiology held in Berlin. The first symposium took place four years ago.

More than 250 scientists from the Federal Republic and a hundred guests from twelve Eastern and Western European countries accepted the invitation from the Technical University's department of fermentation and biotechnology.

This country's Association for Hygiene and Microbiology, the Association for Biological Chemistry and DECHEMA of Frankfurt were the joint organisers of the symposium.

The host department was founded in 1874 and was included in the Technical University in 1951. Students can study to a doctorate in the techniques of brewery. It has long had a good reputation throughout Europe.

Professor Hanswerner Dellweg, head of the department, spoke of the general development in the biological-technical sphere. This, he said, had begun very late compared to technical chemistry and other areas of applied science. He cited the use of alcholic fermentation and the isolation of enzymes as biochemically important hormones as an example.

Only about ten per cent of all micro-organisms existing on the Earth today are known. There must be close cooperation between microbiologists, biochemists and research scientists to find out how many beneficial bacteria and microbes exist among the ninety per cent that are unknown.

That has great importance for immunobiology, a field that today uses more and more of the side products from micro-organisms. Antibiotics and steroid transformations have noticeably become the centre of scientific interest.

University teaching has taken note of this. During the course of this summer term a new course in foodstuff technology is to be intruduced at Berlin's Technical University.

The biotechnologist's profession is based on the subjects of biology and technical chemistry. He thus corresponds to the bio-engineers to be found in the United States and other countries.

Professor Dellweg said that a new department was being built for the subject and would be ready for use in the spring of 1971. Modern inter-disciplinary research will be possible here and hopes are high of enticing other capable scientists to West Berlin.

Experts at the symposium dealt with various subjects, especially with modern methods of microbiological enzyme production and their effect on developments of technological procedure.

Professor Rehm of Munich Technical University's department of foodstuff chemistry said that with fermentation and other processes the main aim was an improvement of current methods.

Recent attempts to further certain stages of development with micro-organisms have led to the creation of continuous breeding processes. Control and regulation play as important a role as the simulation of the enzyme's conversion processes with an electron reckoner.

That means that there will be new microbiological and chemical production methods in the near future which will also have a lasting influence on procedural techniques.

Other lectures were devoted to the important area of foodstuff microbiology. The various measures used to prevent bacterial damage depend on correct recognition of the microbe and its place within several hundred strains.

Dr M. Busse of the Bacteriological Department of the South German Research Institute for Dairy Farming at Weihenstephan spoke of the development of a promising new method for classifying various types of entero-bacteria.

This group includes both beneficial varieties that are also found in the intestines and harmful varieties that quickly make milk sour and rob meat such as chicken of its flavour.

What is remarkable according to Dr N. Weiss, also of Weihenstephan, is that the material conversion of such microbe strains is usually less than one millionth of a gram per cubic centimetre. But this is enough to give milk a particular taste, either good or bad.

Dr H. Mrozek of Düsseldorf has found in his investigations that the size of a dairy concern does not necessarily influence the bacteria content of the milk processed there. The largo bumber of suppliers in country areas often means that the milk contains all sorts of microbe strains.

These can include colibacteria, pseudomonads and even staphylococci. The extent to which these reproduce and affect the milk depends on the process used. In some places it has been observed that large dairy concerns are not so exact when it comes to cleanliness as a small concern where hand-milking is still the rule.

Improvements where milking is done by machine cannot be expected until equipment is washed thoroughly with hot water to cut out the risk of passing on diseases.

Modern microbiology is an attractive science in this field too and will be of great use in the future. The results of this science are of real importance for every day life.

Ernst H. Haux

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 May 1970)

Circulatory diseases are the number one killer

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Circulatory diseases were the main cause of death in the Federal Republic last year, the Federal Statistics Office states in preliminary mortality figures for 1969. The main causes for the diseases could be traced to the heart muscles and the coronary vessels.

Last year, the Statistics Office reveals, 744,400 people died. This is the highest mortality figure since the end of the Second World War and was 10,000 higher than the corresponding figure for 1968 when influenza claimed many victims.

According to the statistics the number of people dying of diabetes increased sharply last year.

The number of fatal road accidents rose by 500 to 16,600.

Deaths by suicide increased by more than 400 to 12,700.

The rate of maternal fatality was 53.1 per 100,000 births. This was little different from the 1968 figure of 52.0.

Infant mortality had fallen negligibly in 1968 in spite of the influenza epidemic. But in 1969 there was a rise in infant deaths below the age of one from 2.26 to 2.31 per cent. This is the first time since the War that the figure has increased.

The rise of the infant mortality rate to 2.78 per cent in December 1969 can be traced above all to the common cold and its effects.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 8 May 1970)

Continued from page 8

Westdeutscher Rundfunk since September 1969.

At the beginning of 1970 the Free Berlin Station started test transmissions for its school broadcasts. School broadcasts are also available in the area covered by NDR and Radio Bremen.

The question as to form and aims of audio-visual media thus becomes relevant. It was once thought that they were aids for the teacher. Their function was to enrich teaching and not themselves take over the role of the teacher.

There was talk of "enrichment" programmes as offered by the classical educational film and Bavaria's school broadcasts. The opposite of this in the jargon of education technology is direct teaching.

The aim of direct teaching is to take some of the work off the shoulders of a teacher faced by a steadily increasing curriculum. The extent to which audio-visual media can themselves develop into self-teaching methods in the future depends on current experiments and results.

The introduction of television into the classroom also raises further questions. Radio broadcasts can be recorded on tape and re-played when needed.

There are video-recorders for television broadcasts but the price makes it impossible to produce them in great numbers at the moment.

Apart from this objection the videotapes of various manufacturers are not compatible with one another and there is the problem of video-recorders for colour television.

For showing educational films through a television, independently of what the stations are transmitting, there is the electronic video recording process. This process competes with the recently announced *selecta vision* of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA).

Fritz Kempe

(DIE WELT, 9 May 1970)

■ THE ECONOMY

Research institutes report on economic health

The rise in costs and prices is pushing higher than at any other time since the Korean crisis in 1950-1951. A feeling of uncertainty is growing among members of the general public in the face of an apparently inactive government in Bonn.

In this situation the half-yearly joint survey carried out by the five major economic research institutes in this country – *DIW in Berlin, Efo in Munich*, HWWA in Hamburg, RWI in Essen and Ifw in Kiel – was awaited with greater suspense than usual.

Now this has been published and once again it has been underlined that economic forecasts are creatures with short lives.

Whereas the research institutes were speaking of a definite economic relaxation in the course of this year up until a few weeks ago it has now been confirmed that "for 1970 there will continue to be full employment, a comparable growth rate in production and almost full use of industrial capacities.



Forces leading to rising prices will, in the course of the year, be subject to slight relaxation, but will remain exceedingly strong.

Economic experts have expressed clearly in figures what this means for the consumer. On average the cost of living index for this year will be four per cent up on the index for 1969.

In the summer months the cost of living will shoot up at an even greater rate and level off a little after that.

This is far more than any of us want and far more than the Bonn government speaks of when aiming at an ideal, namely one per cent per annum.

This is the level at which price rises can be considered as indicative of price stability. A one per cent increase is virtually unavoidable even when there is "genuine" price stability, since a proportion of improvements to quality must appear in index figures as a price increase.

In the discussion about this joint report another, far higher figure has cropped up: according to economic experts prices this year should rise by seven per cent.

This figure deals with the so-called "price index of the gross national product" which is not comparable with the indices for the cost of living. This figure has no part to play in these discussions.

The steep increase in prices at present and in the near future brings to light again the question of whether stronger economic braking measures should have been employed and in fact whether it is not now time to make use of further weapons supplied by the Economic Stabilisation Act.

The public is asking such questions and the government is under increasing pressure. But it is noticeable and remarkable that in the economic research institutes' report there is no appeal for new measures to be taken, at least in the present circumstances.

This is true despite the fact that researchers were not in unison about the consequences to be drawn from their joint prognosis.

On the one side the Berlin and Munich institutes believe that everything will fall into place of its own accord.

"The measures that have been taken so far to stop price rises must be judged in connection with the prevailing economic tendencies: the value of new investments has declined, orders from abroad continue to increase as a result of international economic developments and the effect of revaluation of the Mark has been weakened. These are not reasons for dealing out a heavier dose of these economic measures," according to the Berlin and Munich institutes.

A different attitude is taken by the economic research institutes in Hamburg, Essen and Kiel. They see new dangers arising from the continued increased prices in the course of this year which all the institutes have forecast.

The relatively high rates of price increases which are predicted for the summer months and early autumn will have psychological effects. They could affect trade union wage demands and lead to continued high wage increases.

Industrialists would continue to give little resistance to these demands and would meet them with further price rises. They would be more successful in this if at the same time another outcome of steep price increases came into effect, that is to say a further drop in new savings.

The less money saved, the more spent on consumer goods, the higher the demand and the better the chances of meeting higher costs with higher prices. The morale of the parties to a collective wage agreement would be particularly low if they see the government concerned with maintaining the high economic level.

Certain government statements to the effect that the Bonn coalition will not allow the economic level to drop have been regarded by these economic institutes as a kind of guarantee of full employment. In such circumstances wage increases could remain exceedingly high for longer than to yet more price increases, they say.

These three economic research institutes recommend that further measures should be taken only if these dangers show signs of being fulfilled, that is to say if in the second half of 1970 there is still no slowing down of the prices and incomes rat race. They regard in particular a premature renunciation by the Bundesbank of its restrictive Bank Rate as an important indication of the need for additional braking measures.

There is the possibility that, as in 1960, the flood of foreign exchange will baulk the efforts of the Bundesbank. Then it would be particularly tempting to employ other measures as a substitute.

One obvious measure would be a tax increase of limited duration on w... there might be a rebate the follo... year. This is one measure that the B... government rejected earlier this yea...

It is striking that the other two ins... es, Munich and Berlin, hold a si... opinion about the Bundesbank's p... being foiled. Nevertheless they f... there is no need to recommend ... measures for this eventuality. Taking ... account this increasing factor of ... certainty they should really have com... a similar conclusion and expressed s... fears to the other three institutes.

As a headline for this report it coul... said that all five institutes are of ... opinion that nothing more can be do... counteract the present rise in prices ... that extreme caution must be exercis... following developments so that a new ... wave of increases to prices and co... be nipped in the bud.

The main alarm signal would be ... wanted pressure on rates of interest ... result of heavy influxes of money fr... abroad. If this came about new meas... would be imperative immediately. ... government would be ill-advised if ... more attention to the electorate's de... for temporary tax increases than t... to keep prices from rising too fast.

Until the situation becomes a... however, it is essential to wait and ... measures so far taken come into eff...

H. Jürge...

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEM... SONNTAGSBLATT, 10 May ...)

Development aid hearing leads nowhere

After the first extensive 'hearing' on development aid policy to which the Bundestag committee for economic co-operation invited seventeen experts to Bonn the insight of parliamentarians has made itself felt.

There will be further such 'hearings' to discuss individual topics such as unemployment all over the world and technical aid.

So now, what seemed to have been a failure at the first attempt still has a chance of succeeding.

The manifold problems of development aid and the extent to which they can be pushed through despite political objections may be cleared up.

The broad area of discussion that was striven for this time led, needs be, to a two day discussion of well-worn themes, such as have become well-known through the Pearson Report or the initial Cabinet statements on development aid.

Parliamentarians spared no energy in putting up the whole range of development aid problems for discussion. But it was precisely this from which the 'hearing' suffered.

No expert in the world can deal with such complicated problems in any depth in twenty minutes. He is restricted to making general statements.

Problems such as improvements to technical aid, social equality in underdeveloped countries and family planning, require time if they are to be treated in depth.

In addition to this most organisations invited to send a representative to Bonn, the churches, the Trades Union Confederation, working committees, Third World countries and the Taxpayers' Federation, sent one of their top men, but not necessarily anyone who was an expert on development aid.

On the invitations list there were no independent critics who might well have led the discussions on to more fruitful plains.

One group to object strongly to such shortcomings were student bodies. A group from Freiburg calling itself *Aktion Dritte Welt* (Action for the Third World) abstained from the hearing in protest.

This has in the meantime called its own "anti-hearing".

Erika Schork

(VORWÄRTS, 11 May 1970)

Trade figures in March were healthy

Foreign trade closed in March ... with an export surplus ... 1,499 million Marks, according to ... Federal Statistics Bureau in Wiesbaden.

Further figures issued by the Bu... stated that at the end of February ... balance sheet showed a balance of ... surplus of 1,596 million Marks.

In the month covered by the re... imports were stated to be w... 9,058 million Marks, which was 840 ... lion Marks or ten per cent higher th... the corresponding month of 1969.

Exports were worth 10,557 mi... Marks which was 744 million Marks ... March 1969 or eight per cent.

Likewise, in comparison to the pr... month trading figures, which are s... to seasonal fluctuations increased.

The growth rate for imports ... 949 million Marks, equal to twelv... cent. Exports were also showing a t... per cent rise, being at 1,140 million ... Marks.

In the first three months of 1970 ... together imports stood at 25,800 mi... Marks. Exports were worth 28,700 ... lion Mark.

(Handelsblatt, 24 April 1...)

Saving through mutual investment funds

About forty Federal Republic mutual investment funds and more than a hundred abroad are offering savers their shares to build up capital reserves.

Anyone who has a sufficient sum on deposit account and shies away from direct acquisition of fixed interest securities or shares on account of the expense involved and the risks in this kind of investment can select for himself from a wide range of mutual funds and adjust the level of his investment by dipping his hand into a large barrel of securities or building society shares.

Investment experts control for a relatively small fee the reserve funds in accordance with the principles of the by-laws. In general this kind of investment offers a fair degree of liquidity from day to day on the stock market, high security as a result of risks being shared over a wide area, steady yield and a long-term increase in value – in ideal cases both of these latter apply.

When selling shares the investor receives par value (the total funds of the mutual trust divided by the number of certificates on issue).

The issued price is made up of the current selling price plus sales expenses which are between two and 8.75 per cent of the issued price.

The investor can chose between fixed interest securities, shares and building society shares for this type of investment. Fixed interest securities buy only securities with a fixed interest rate including convertible bonds aimed at securing a continual high rate of interest.

Shares and mixed funds aim at the highest possible exchange profits.

Building society funds are attractive t... a wide range of investors at all level wh... want to participate in constantly ri... land and building prices without bei... involved in all the usual formalities ... buying and selling real estate.

Differences must be noted between ... mutual investment funds controlled ... Federal Republic legislation and for... organisations. 137 concerns are subject ... Federal Republic statutes in their bu... ness affairs.

More than 300 have not been regis... ed. These are not allowed to sell th... certificates publicly, for instance fr... door to door. but only directly fr... abroad and over the bank counter.

Most of them have their headquar... in oases of tax relief such as Luxembou... Panama, the Bahamas and the West I... dies. These exotic funds manage to esca... virtually every kind of control.

Alfred Tholen

(DIE WELT, 11 May 1970)

■ FASHION

Rag trade anxious for a speedy resolution to the maxi-mini battle

Madame Pompidou took the future of dress lengths, in France at least, into her own hands when she flew to the United States on 23 February on a State *visit* – she had a wardrobe of 43 midi and maxi dresses.

America has always tended to base its fashion ideas on the woman who was for many years top of the list for the best-dressed woman in the United States, the wife of the late President John F. Kennedy. Now she is the wife of Aristotle Onassis, Jackie wears midi-length dresses.

Mini-mad Englishwomen were encouraged by Mary Quant. But now the queen of British fashions and cosmetics says: "Historically speaking the mini is fascinating – with the emphasis on *historically*".

There is no such leader in the world of fashion for the Federal Republic. Hence there is a dress-length crisis in this country.

In April this year the trade paper *Textil-Wirtschaft* asked plaintively: "What should we order, maxi, midi or mini? "

This was no longer a question of taste, it was in fact an attempt to get out of a blind alley. Orders had to be placed in good time and in the right direction and the future of 240,000 people employed in this branch of the economy depended on the right answer being found.

There are two sides to this industry, the producers, – 1,550 clothing manufacturers and salesmen – 5,000 stores, dress-shops and boutiques. This is an industry which has an annual turnover of around 4,000 million Marks (4,100 million Marks in 1969.)

There is a danger for this industry that it can go off the rails simply because a mistake of a fraction of an inch here of there has been made – because the designers have gone up instead of down, or vice versa.

Orders for this autumn's fashions are to say the least unclear, hesitant and liable to change at short notice.

This branch of industry holds six conventions a year, three each in the spring and autumn trying to place orders for the coming season.

The conventions are the Munich Fashion Week, the Berlin Fashion Show and Düsseldorf's *Igedo*.

Within thirty days orders worth about 1,000 million Marks are placed.

This year, however, buyers were shocked at the first fashion show, the 21st Munich Fashion Week.

This show set out to realise what so many people have been talking about yet what so many did not believe in – maxi fashions.

The trade, however, is not so keen on the idea and thus many order books in Munich remained empty. The first deadline for reaching unison on autumn fashions had been missed. As far as is known the maxi-look will be a non-runner.

Uncertain, yet with this sure knowledge, buyers moved on to Berlin one week later. Then came the second shock, in the form of the midi, that length which covers half the shinbone.

The decision was taken to wait another week before placing orders and to let *Igedo* in Düsseldorf set the standard for the unsettled industry.

By this stage it was too late for the buyers to continue procrastinating – they had to order whether they liked it or not. So they ordered, more from instinct than from conviction.

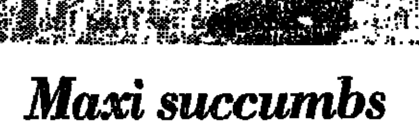
Orders were dished out in the dark, worth something like a few hundred million Marks. Nevertheless by the end of this show manufacturers were short of fifteen per cent of the contracts they had expected.

Orders worth 150 million Marks just did not materialise.

Heinz Lademann, the head of the sales side of the women's fashion industry said: "Reps from clothing manufacturers are now on the road hawking around for the vital missing contracts."

Researchers in the industry have been looking carefully at the orders that were placed and have come to the conclusion that one in four orders was for midis and hemlines will be around women's knees.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 10 May 1970)



Maxi succumbs

Maxi-fashions, it would seem, have gone the way of all flesh even before they had outgrown their infancy.

Not only have women in the Federal Republic pronounced the fashion dead, and buried it, but women in the German Democratic Republic have also come out against its perpetuation, since for the working woman it is just a hindrance.

Women in the other part of Germany put the welfare of their nation and its economy before the whims of fashion.

France bewailed its fate as a maxi-nation and women in the USA even went so far as to form a Society for the Prevention of Maxis as a protest against the dictates of French fashion designers.

All over the world the anti-maxi movement persists for one very simple reason – maxis require more material than shorter clothes and what is more they require good quality material or the wearer looks like a walking tent!

Naturally an article which costs 100 Marks in mini form will be at least 150 Marks in its maxi version.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 17 May 1970)

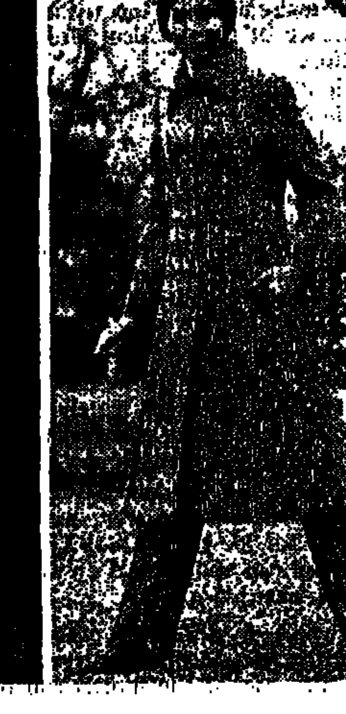
After weeks of uncertainty the 85th Düsseldorf Fashion Fair, known as Igedo, threw some light on fashion trends for the coming season. Although all lengths will continue to be worn, from marco to maxi, it will be the midi that dominates. Fifty European couturiers showed their creations for the autumn and winter 1970-71 in Düsseldorf. (Picture above: A representative collection of tasteful items). The pictures below show from left to right: Avenue Montigne, an ensemble of dress and coat in printed cloth. Empfang (reception) an afternoon-wear dress of yellow-white doubleknit wool with a bolero jacket. Hornet, a chasuble of bright printed Jersey wool with a fringed seam over a black trouser-suit. Britt, a white Jersey-dress with side-slit skirt. Skyhawk, a trouser-ensemble of black and white printed camelhair.

(Photos: Ursula Knipping 5, deltapress, Greta Robok)









■ AUTOMOBILES

Revamped Goggomobil is a super-Mini

DESIGNED FOR MAXIMUM SPACIOUSNESS

A Mini from this country with a number of interesting technical innovations will soon be making its appearance on the home market. It is a completely revamped successor to the Goggomobil, new in construction, new in having a body of plastic-coated steel, new in being able to boast an engine with an extremely effective clean exhaust package and in every respect something of a sensation. Goggo dealers have agreed almost to a man to handle sales of the new Piccolo.



A prototype of the new AWS Piccolo mini-car

(Photo: Gruhne)

Unnoticed by either the general public or the trade a new car factory has been built at Lich, Upper Hesse, a bare hour by autobahn from Frankfurt. The assembly lines from the old Glas works in Dingolfing have been transferred to Lich. In a matter of weeks a completely new version of the old Goggomobil, to be known as the AWS Piccolo, will be running off them.

The new factory is far from being as small as the Mini it will be manufacturing. It is a fair-sized works on an eighteen-acre site. The finishing touches prior to series production of the Piccolo are not all that Lich can boast. For some time AWS have manufactured car-body and sheetmetal spares for Borgward, Lloyd and Glas models.

Chassis and engine are those of the Goggo: either the 250-cc version developing fourteen horse power and capable of 55 miles an hour or the 400-cc version developing twenty horse power and with a top speed of over sixty.

Construction and materials are entirely new. Cast aluminium plugs are slotted into a resilient rectangular tubular steel frame, a system patented by AWS boss Walter Schätzle. Without the least expenditure on tooling all manner of vehicles can be constructed along these lines.

Thanks to this revolutionary construction method Schätzle is in a position to build caravans, commercial vehicle bodies, containers and even complete car bodies with a negligible outlay. This alone is something of a sensation.

The second sensation of the Goggo from Hesse is its plastic-coated sheet-steel body. The steel was developed by Salzgitter steelworks. The gloss plastic finish makes spraying, polishing and waxing unnecessary and renders the body ab- [illegible]

As the body is bolted together virtually anyone can replace any part of the body with the aid of a screwdriver and a pair of pliers in next to no time. A rear wing, for instance, costs 29.50 Marks all in.

Parts do not need respraying either. All car body spares are supplied in the original colour, either red, green or ivory.

Every inch of the miniature body (overall length nine foot nine, with four foot three and height four foot four) is utilised to the full.

There are four full-sized seats and a surprisingly roomy boot. The rear seats can be flipped forward to make room for a baby's pram, too, should the need arise.

The construction system makes any number of variations possible. In addition to the saloon there is already a small van version that can even be used in enclosed spaces.

In conjunction with Professor Leistritz Lloyd, who now manufacture Goggo engines, have developed an extremely effective clean exhaust package for the Goggo two-stroke engine.

A small number of estate and beach car versions are also to be built.

Former Goggo dealers have opted almost to a man to handle Piccolo sales and servicing. So there will be no trouble in finding a garage since all dealers have many years of experience with Goggo engineering.

The Piccolo is to cost something in the region of 4,000 Marks. In addition to various home orders many foreign firms have already placed firm orders for sizeable deliveries of the new German Mini.

Walter Schätzle reckons that the first 20,000 Piccolos are already as good as sold. They will soon be running off the assembly line at a rate of fifty a day.

(Industriekurier, 14 May 1970)

Doctors highlight weaknesses in car design causing injuries

Every year half a million people are injured in accidents on this country's roads. This number need not be so high, it was maintained at the recent annual conference of the Accident Medicine Association.

In a number of cases accident black spots in the vehicles themselves are due to poor design, though many accidents could be avoided if motorists would only wear safety belts.

On occasion, however, emergency ward doctors can hazard a fairly certain guess as to the make of vehicle the victim was driving merely from the injuries he has sustained.

The doctors involved have no intention of levelling accusations at car designers and stylists. They want merely to point out to manufacturers that certain design features are clearly dangerous.

Many of the doctors attending the Düsseldorf conference were worried by the fact that the injured man's prospects of survival can still depend on where the accident takes place.

It makes a difference whether the accident occurs in the countryside or in town. Because of the shorter and more easily covered distances involved medical assistance is more readily forthcoming in the city than it is when a serious accident occurs on a country road.

Doctors demanded that this time lag be eliminated by the use of the most up-to-date means — adequate numbers of rescue helicopters, for instance.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 May 1970)

Gas turbines competitive in heavy vehicles

In the foreseeable future series manufactured motor vehicles will be equipped with gas turbines instead of the customary piston engine. Turbines have a number of advantages over the conventional car engine.

Research engineers and designers of all international commercial vehicle manufacturers, whether they be Ford, Leyland or Daimler-Benz, are engaged in work on making turbines competitive.

"There is a genuine prospect of this development work being brought to a successful conclusion," Herr Hagen of MAN noted in a recent Stuttgart lecture.

In the 350-horse-power category, he commented, a basic design has already emerged that except for minor details has found acceptance all over the world.

Compressors, heat exchangers, combustion chambers and turbines are components in this international concept.

Turbines are straightforward in design, have few moving parts, are capable of high revs and considerable power, are light in weight, start well in cold weather, have a long life-span and need relatively little servicing.

(DIE WELT, 8 May 1970)

ON THE ROA

Transport show

Munich's Deutsches Museum tains a new overland transpo tion documenting the developm transport on wheels from Puffing B 1813 to the Wankel-engined des C111.

The romance of the Great Iron W be seen in models and originals of locomotives of the mid-nineteenth tury, including the Hans Sachs, Ba and Drache, and a number of railway carriages.

(Handelsblatt, 8 [illegible])

Two-year test

Last year branches of the Tech Supervision Association, the bod sponsible for conducting two-year worthiness tests on motor vehicles, more than 5,110,000 cars.

A mere 43.2 per cent of the tested proved to be in good co further 28.6 per cent had minor and 27.6 per cent more serious faul

39,996 vehicles were banned fr ing the roads because they were co tely unsafe. On average each ve tested proved defective on 2.1 count

One vehicle in four (25.9 per cent defective brakes, 21.6 per cent had lighting, 13.9 per cent bad steering 8.5 per cent unsafe tyres.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 May)

Road cleaner

Kuba of Augsburg now markets roadsweeping vehicle that funct like a gigantic vacuum cleaner with speed of 135 miles an hour.

This powerful suction is necess clear heavy dirt from the road without the aid of brushes. Fine d also cleared withour difficulty.

Specially designed for through and autobahns, the new device wil the roads without leaving behind of dust, a familiar sight on the roads

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Z für Deutschland, 6 May)

Opel racer

Ever since Opel have manufa models with a decided empha speed the demand for more pow Opel touring models has increased order to meet the demand for powerful engines Opel have produ special 2,000-unit run of Commodor with a 2.8-litre engine develo 145 horse power at 5,200 revs.

The intention is to provide do-it-yo self fans and tuning firms specialisin Opels with an opportunity of gettin good deal more power out of what engine ideally suited for tuning. cording to international regulations 2.8-litre engine can be rebored up three litres, taking it into Class 2.

The new model, designed with racing mind, at the same time provides with the opportunity of producing limited number of two- and four-d Commodore GS saloons powered by 2.8-litre engine. The Commodore GS is a de luxe version for motorists wi relatively low-rev six-cyliner engine.

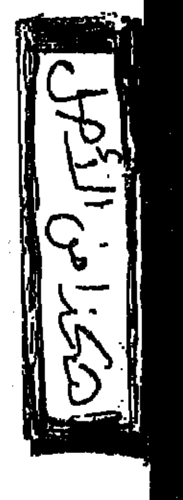
(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 May 1)

Taxi buses

A Munich businessman proposes operate taxi services along routes. Passengers will be able to get and off wherever they want, pay 25 Pfennigs a kilometre, which is considerably less than the normal taxi fare.

(WELT am SONNTAG, 10 May 19)





■ OUR WORLD

In honour of Germany's Liar Baron

Thirty million reminders of Germany's most famous liar are now circulating in the Federal Republic in the form of a special stamp issued by the Bundespost to commemorate the 250th anniversary of tall story teller Baron Hieronymus Karl Friedrich von Münchhausen.

Commemorative coins in gold and silver are adding to the tribute to the yarn spinner, born 250 years ago on 11 May.

To do him justice the famous "liar baron" was not quite such a perpetrator of falsehoods as legend has it. Certainly the unusual claim to fame of the Hanoverian nobleman is exaggerated.

Now he has become a kind of prototype for the man who can tell a "whopper" and get away with it. But this was by no means intentional on the part of Baron von Münchhausen.

The historical Hieronymus von Münchhausen came from the House of Bodenwerder-Rinteln and as an eighteen year-old followed Prince Anton Ulrich of Brunswick to Russia. In the service of Czarina Elisabeth he reached the rank of Captian of Cavalry.

In contrast to the legend that grew up around him he was already a settled man on his own estate by the age of thirty.

He has little in common with the image of the liar baron apart form biographical details, name, rank and a reputation for spinning amusing cock-and-bull yarns with a rather boastful air.

Certainly there would have been many [illegible] tall hunting tales were swapped in a room filled with tobacco smoke on the estate in Hanover.

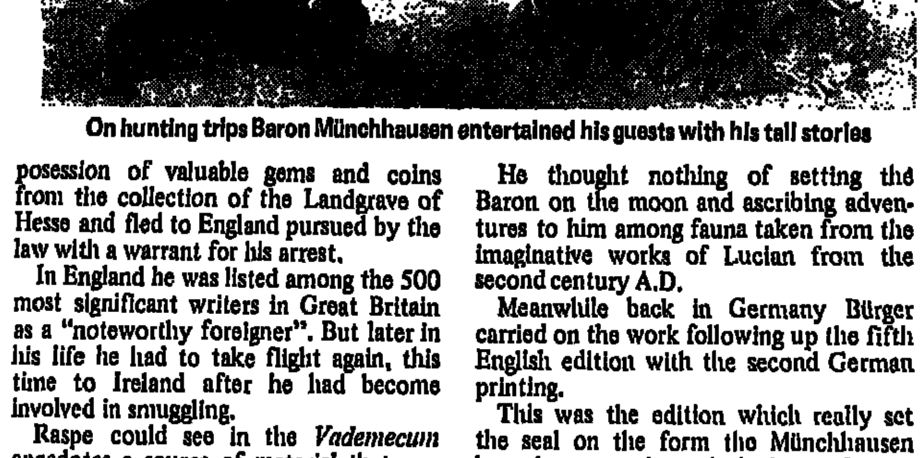
Yet as far as is known Herr von Bodenwerder did not write down any of the tales he told.

But the story of the storyteller spread into neighbouring territories and in 1781, when von Münchhausen was 61, a *Vademecum für lustige Leute* (Jovial Man's Companion) was published in Berlin containing an anonymous collection of sixteen anecdotes with the title *M-h-n-sche Geschichten* (M-h-n-'s Tales).

The author remained unknown and there it might have rested if this anthology with the wordplay on Münchhausen's name, written, so it was said, by "a wit from Hanover" had not come into the possession of a compatriot of the Baron, ex-Professor Rudolf Erich Raspe, in exile in London.

This inventive man, a geologist, mineralogist, poet and translator had gained posession of valuable gems and coins from the collection of the Landgrave of Hesse and fled to England pursued by the law with a warrant for his arrest.





On hunting trips Baron Münchhausen entertained his guests with his tall stories

In England he was listed among the 500 most significant writers in Great Britain as a "noteworthy foreigner". But later in his life he had to take flight again, this time to Ireland after he had become involved in smuggling.

Raspe could see in the *Vademecum* anecdotes a source of material that promised to bring in a few shillings. He collected the fragmentary tales into a complete story, set in Russia with the Russo-Turkish War as a background.

He attributed all kinds of purely fictitious qualities to Baron von Münchhausen, "a member of one of Germany's top noble families."

He provided the anecdotes with what we would call today "a documentary touch". He feigned indiscretion and what he actually wrote was pure slander. Thus this adventurer gave the world another adventurer.

The newfound fame of the Baron of Bodenwerder an der Weser far from pleased him. But there was nothing he could do to kill off his double.

The shilling brochure, published in Oxford was an immediate success and quickly sold out, so Raspe wasted no time in producing a second edition with additions.

It was from this version that the tales came to the attention of Gottfried August Bürger, an unpaid lecturer at Göttingen. He immediately set about translating *The Fabulous Travels and Tales of Baron von Münchhausen* back into German!

The first edition of the Tales was published anonymously in 1786 in Göttingen. No bounds could now be set to the rapid expansion of these fabulous tall stories. In England Raspe brought out edition after edition.

He thought nothing of setting the Baron on the moon and ascribing adventures to him among fauna taken from the imaginative works of Lucian from the second century A.D.

Meanwhile back in Germany Bürger carried on the work following up the fifth English edition with the second German printing.

This was the edition which really set the seal on the form the Münchhausen legend was to take with the Baron flitting back and forth between the Continent and the British Isles. It was enhanced with Bürger's skill with language — a classic edition.

His laconic, sober, "Sturm und Drang" impregnated language brings the Baron to life, making him a distinguished English-Hanoverian cavalier of the eighteenth century.

The Baron has such charm that he puts all his predecessors, Miles Gloriosus, Bramarbas, Horribilicribrifax and all the rest in the shade.

His adventures are in fact based on an international treasury of hoaxes, farces, fables and fairytales, which have been passed on from generation to generation.

The crazy story of the half horse that carries its rider on unmoved by having lost its rump end was already to be found in a sixteenth century book of farces, and in the Baroque comedy of Prahlhans Vincentius Ladislaus, which Duke Heinrich Julius of Brunswick wrote in 1594 to brighten up life at court.

Even Baron Kugelritt has his rivals. The Viennese harlequin Stranitzky had his own version in the early eighteenth century though this lacked the elegance.

However, it is good mead for the age of space travel, with the giant catapult that rocketed men through the air from Salzburg to Moscow.

The themes of the man who crawls alive from a fish's belly, of the land made from cheese and the ocean of milk have their origins in mythological times. They are immediately reminiscent of Jonah and the whale and the "land of milk and honey".

Such a wealth of folklore and tradition is contained in these anecdotes that it is no wonder they were best sellers and made the man who created them internationally famous and celebrated.

Perhaps the appeal of Münchhausen's tall stories lies also in the fact that they contain many of the elements of our own childhood dreams and fantasies.

The secret imaginings of the childhood mind opened up a whole fabulous world to us which was lost when we grew up and which came alive again on reading the unlikely exploits of the Liar Baron.

The "way out" adventures of the Baron were a sure way of taking us away from the banality of life. *Irene Ruttmann*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 May 1970)

A statue to the Liar Baron at Bodenwerder showing the Baron's 'half-horse' drinking water (Photos: Historia, dpa)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kissing time

Kissing in the school playground in Bavaria will no longer be frowned on, following a ruling by the Bavarian Education Ministry.

Now sixth formers at co-ed schools who are going out together will be able to exchange more than loving glances between Latin and Mathematics.

The purpose of the new ruling, which will only apply to the "Prima" class, is to help schoolboys and girls in love to concentrate better on their studies.

Playground lovemaking follows the case of one sixth former who was observed giving his girlfriend a hearty smack between lessons.

His headmaster suspended him and the boy brought his case before Education Minister Ludwig Huber, who stated that he saw no moral danger in allowing upper classes to kiss in the playground.

And yet people still claim that Bavarians are old-fashioned!

Schoolchildren have been quick to respond to the new ruling, holding kiss[illegible]

The only sour note comes from the "Sekunda" or fifth-formers. Many of them are seventeen or older and they feel that they too should be allowed to give their girls a kiss between lessons!

(NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG, 7 May 1970)

Fine physique

Mr Germany 1970, the Federal Republic's most manly man, comes from Cologne.

Sports master Karl Blömer, 32, scored a runaway victory in the competition against ninety attractive rivals, held in Munich's Bürgerbräu Beer Cellar.

Mr Blömer became Mr Germany with the undoubted help of one of the biggest chests in Europe, measuring [illegible] centimetres, about 56 inches. Warm applause came from the female members of the audience.

Karl Blömer will go on to represent the Federal Republic in the Mr Universe contest in London on 28 September.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 May 1970)

Munich grows

Of all Federal Republic cities Munich has grown the fastest since the census taken on 25 September 1956.

There are now 1,279,405 people living in the Bavarian capital, 316,545 more than fourteen years ago.

In the same period the population of Cologne went up by 142,381 to 855,[illegible]

The third greatest increase in population was in Nuremberg where there are 46,472 more people living than in 1956. The number of inhabitants of Nuremberg now stands at 470,778.

(DIE WELT, 12 May 1970)

Missing men

The fate of 1,180,000 former soldiers is still unknown according the president of the Federal Red cross, Walter Bargatzky, who presented these figures recently in Bonn.

Search for the missing men has been going on for 25 years.

As a result of Red Cross investigations however, the fate of every third missing member of the Wehrmacht has been clarified.

Of 1,700,000 applications to the Red Cross concerning missing soldiers 550,000 cases have been completed.

(DIE WELT, 5 May 1970)

■ SPORT

How Bonn politicans keep in trim

Politics is a murderous business," a well-known parliamentarian once noted. Not long afterwards he died of a heart attack. Hardened arteries, the doctor said.

In order not to suffer the same fate many Bonn politicians keep fit by engaging in sport of one kind or another. An up-to-date gymnasium and sauna will soon form part of the parliamentary office block.

The highest-ranking athlete in the Federal capital is Dr Gustav Heinemann. Every morning on the dot of seven the head of state takes a half-hour dip at Venusberg baths. His bodyguard and chauffeur follow suit.

Chancellor Willy Brandt, on the other hand, has so much to do as head of government that he seldom finds time for sport. Whenever possible, though, he goes for walks in between appointments. The Chancellor can often be seen going for a brisk ten-minute stroll round the grounds of Palais Schaumburg.

Defence Minister Helmut Schmidt has a reputation for being an enthusiastic yachtsman. Together with his personal-friend and Parliamentary State Secretary Karl Wilhelm Berkhan he owns a synthetic yawl. The two men take their holidays at the same time and head, whenever possible, for the Baltic.

Berkhan, the elder of the two, generally sits by the foresail while Schmidt is by the mainsail working out the course, the weather and other strategic matters. "He is a first-rate yachtsman," Berkhan says of the Minister.

Finance Minister Dr Alex Möller also feels at home on the high seas. In the holiday season he heads his motor boat in the direction of Mediterranean waters. The head of Bonn's finances also indulges in an occasional game of table tennis.

Transport Minister Georg Leber and his agricultural opposite number Josef Ertl are skiing enthusiasts. The same is true of Käte Strobel, Minister of Health, who also swims and hikes, taking special pleasure in going for walks with her grandchildren. In the summer Ertl is a force to be reckoned with at putting the shot.



Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher keeps fit on a training bicycle (Photo: dpa)

For time reasons Foreign Minister Walter Scheel has to limit himself to walks. He only finds time for longer hikes during his holidays in Hinterthal, Austria, where he owns a holiday home.

The same is true of Free Democratic parliamentary party chairman Wolfgang Mischnick, who used to be a keen footballer, hockey player and athlets.

Christian Social Union leader Franz Josef Strauss, holder of the sporting proficiency badge in gold like many of his colleagues, is an enthusiastic cyclist and athlete.

Dr Rainer Barzel, parliamentary party chairman of the Christian Democratic Union, goes for a dip every morning before work like the President. His winter sport fancies are curling and ice-skating. Every year Barzel can be seen pirouetting around the rink at Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Not long ago he even broke a leg skating.

Interior Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is also reputed to be an enthusiastic swimmer. In summer he can often be seen among the crowds at open-air baths.

Two other sportsmen worthy of mention are Dr Adolf Müller-Emmert, Social Democratic chairman of the Bundestag Sports Club, and Dr Wolfgang Rutschke, Free Democrat and holder of the sporting proficiency badge in gold despite serious physical handicap.

(Das Parlament, 9 May 1970)

Augsburg to host Olympic canoe slalom

Augsburg has finally been selected as the venue of the canoe slalom events at the 1972 Olympics by the International Olympic Committee, meeting in Amsterdam. The IOC approved the recommendation of the Federal Republic and International Canoe Associations.

IOC president Avery Brundage had insisted that the canoe slalom take place in Munich and refused point blank to allow a change of venue.

The slalom is now definitely to be held on Augsburg's Eiskanal, which will need extending at one end at a cost of nine million Marks or so.

The present 600-metre course will have two new locks and a side canal to the river Lech, providing the ideal of a natural canoe slalom stadium.

(DIE WELT, 14 May 1970)

Bomber Gerd Müller goal-scorer extraordinary

In a colour supplement the London *Daily Express* stars a number of players from the fifteen teams England will be facing in the Mexico World football Cup. The opposition is dealt short shrift. Only two foreigners are given a whole-page spread — Gigi Riva of Italy and Gerd Müller of this country.

"Der Bomber" the *Express* headlines Müller's page. Well it might. Müller is the most successful goal-scorer in Europe this season as football fans in the home of soccer know.

On 38 occasions his name has echoed through the loudspeaker system of Federal league football grounds, confirming what the fans have seen for themselves seconds before: "Goal scored by Müller."

In Munich's Grünwald stadium this has invariably been the occasion for renewed jubilation. At away matches the loudspeaker announcement has more often than not given rise feelings of admiration and envy. — "If only they didn't have Müller!"

But Bayern Munich do have Müller and weekend after weekend his 38 goals have been the subject of reports on millions of football pages in the press. He has scored eight more goals than Alemannia Aachen, three more than MSV Duisburg and the same number as Werder Bremen.

If his 38 are subtracted from the 88 scored by Bayern the club would occupy a run-of-the-mill position half way down the championship table.

Gerd Müller in action (Photo: Nordbild)

The snag is, of course that another player in his position would not have been inactive but the philosophy of goal-scoring leaves no room for speculation. Yet his admirers did not break out in paeans of praise even when he put four goals in Oberhausen's net.

They were all goals scored at point-blank range and what is worse, on two occasions the opposing goalkeeper twice thumped the ball in front of his waiting feet. "What's all this talk of luck?" Müller angrily asks. "I am there to take the shot."

There can be no answer to that. A goal is a goal. Yet he still [illegible] to earn himself a prize for attractive football. He still scores goal in far too unspectacular a fashion.

He does not shoot head first through the penalty area nor does he kick the ball over his head out of harm's way from behind, landing on his back pointed in the direction of the opposing half as Uwe Seeler used to do, earning a burst of applause for an artistic display even if he has been unsuccessful for the precious eighty minutes.

Müller just hammers the ball straight into the net. In this respect he has not changed at all this season.

Personally he has changed. He is more good-looking, teenage girls claim. This is doubtless due to his longer hair, which gives him an aura of Boheme, pop and Schwabing, the artist's quarter of Munich.

Longer hair seems also to have strengthened his backbone. Gerd Müller has grown more self-confident. He knows that it is not only the statisticians that he delights by regularly breaking some record or other. After this season he knows more than ever what he is worth.

Gerhard Müller made Mexico possible as far as this country is concerned. As such he has assured the trainer of the national team of a pension from the Football Association when he reaches retirement age. Müller can now sit and wait for a French sports newspaper to award him the Mr Europe title for being the most successful goal-scorer on the Continent.

Müller's only rival for the title is Peter Yekov of Bulgaria, but the ten-goal lead ought to suffice even though the season in Sofia continues for a few weeks after the World Cup.

If Yekov fails to make up the ground Müller will not have an opponent in Europe. Of late he has been on the best of terms with his old rival, Uwe Seeler.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 7 May 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth. $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT £ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.60
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.65
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d